DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY



NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P.O. BOX 60267
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0267

Planning, Programs and Project Management Division Protection and Restoration Office May 8, 2008

Dear Property Owner:

By letter dated December 20, 2007, we advised you of the status of surveys and geotechnical analyses relative to your property and invited you to an informational meeting on January 10, 2008. Attached to that letter was a map showing the toe of the theoretical levee (i.e. where the design levee section intersects the natural ground elevation) as a solid orange line, the toe plus 6 feet line (shown as a dashed orange line), and the approximate location of the 1966 levee toe (the green line) on your property. A copy of the December 20, 2007 letter and map is enclosed with this letter.

Based on comments received at the January 10, 2008 meeting, we re-examined our analyses and were able to reduce the footprint of the tree and fence removal program. Attached to this letter is an Obstruction/Item Inventory that identifies the location of the "March 2008 Theoretical Toe Line (including +6 foot offset)." This line is shown as a solid blue line on the map and is also marked in each yard with blue stakes. Please be informed that the theoretical levee toe plus 6 feet line represents the minimum zone that must be kept free of obstructions, per Louisiana law (Louisiana Revised Statutes 38:225) and Corps guidance.

We have recently requested right-of-entry from the non-federal sponsor, the Orleans Levee District, to accomplish the removal of trees and fences within the identified obstruction zones. With the approach of this year's hurricane season, we anticipate getting the work underway in the next month. Structures other than trees and fences that are identified as obstructions (such as sheds, retaining walls, etc.) will not be removed at this time. We will refer each of these structures to the local sponsor, the Orleans Levee District, for resolution through their normal permitting processes.

In order to hear your concerns and answer your questions, we have scheduled a meeting for Monday, May 12 between 1 and 3 p.m. in the District Assembly Room at our offices located at 7400 Leake Avenue. The District Assembly Room is located immediately adjacent to the main (central) entrance to our headquarters building.

If you have any questions concerning this letter, please feel free to contact me at 504-862-2553 or Ms. Beulah Harrison of our Real Estate Division at 504-862-1359. Visit our web page at www.mvn.usace.army.mil (click on Removing Trees to Protect Levees under Hurricane Recovery Links).

Sincerely,

Stephen F. Finnegan Landscape Architect Project Manager for Tree Removal

Copy furnished: Mr. Stevan Spencer, Orleans Levee District Mrs. Shelley Midura, New Orleans City Councilperson, District A